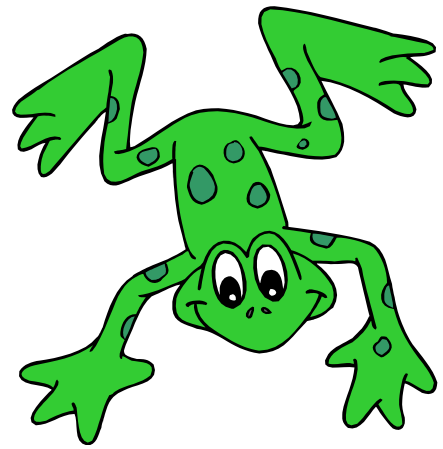


First Grade Leaps Into Learning

October 1, 2010



Reading News

To review what we learned this past week, ask your child the following questions (*correct answers provided*): What letter and sound did you learn this week? (**n**) What keys did you learn to read? (**an**, **od**, **om** & **og**)? How many boxes were on your matrix? (9)

Next week we will work on the letters and sounds for **p**, and **ch**. Our keys will be **ap**, **op**, and **and**. The "circle (sight) words" will be ***in***, ***brown***, ***must***, ***say***, ***oh***, ***yes***, ***has***, and ***and***. We will continue to use the terms upper, middle, lower, left and right as we work on a 9-box matrix.

We read the key stories "Dots", "Mom" and "The Cod". When your child brings home a key story, I ask that you practice reading it for homework. After I return them, you may even want to consider putting them in a binder and re-reading from time to time, just for practice. Your child should be able to read these with little help. They contain all keys and circle words that we have covered.

Also use the lists of keys and words that were sent home to practice reading every day. We're working for instant word recognition to improve reading fluency and comprehension.

Math News

This week we used our birthday data and M & M's to make a bar graph (Math SOL 1.15).

We also played games to develop addition and subtraction concepts. The games will help the children develop the mental images which they will need to work at the abstract level of addition and subtraction.

Next week we will continue to work on developing addition and subtraction concepts (Math SOL 1.5).

Science / Social Studies News

This week we have been exploring the changing seasons. This is Science SOL 1.7 - the student will investigate and understand the relationship of seasonal change and weather to the activities and life processes of plants and animals. One of the books we read was "The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree". We did a science/art project showing the same tree in each season.

Next week we will be focusing specifically on the season of fall. Our study will include exploring how the seasonal changes of fall affect animals, plants, people, and Earth. We'll also do some fun fall art activities! Be on the lookout for signs of fall!

Lunch Notes

The cafeteria offers juice and snacks to the children at an additional cost. To avoid any confusion, please send a note on the days that you will be allowing your child to make those extra purchases. You can also give or deny permission to purchase these extras when you put money on your child's account. This will prevent the children from spending all of their regular lunch money. If you have questions, feel free to contact me.



Box Tops & Campbell's Labels



Please remember to send your Box Tops for Education and/or Campbell's labels to school. These programs help our school earn cash for things such as books, computers, other types of technology, and playground equipment. Since 2002, HJB has earned more than \$5,000 through the Box Tops program! Go to <http://www.bboxtops4education.com> and <http://www.labelsforeducation.com> to learn more about these programs.

Important Dates in October

- 8 - Interim Reports issued
- 11 - NO SCHOOL Professional Day for Teachers
- 20 - School Picture Day

